

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
a processor coupled to a computer readable storage medium, the computer readable storage medium including
instructions for an operating system including a ~~kernel mode and a user mode,~~
~~the kernel mode of the operating system including~~ instructions for a database management program, the instructions for the database management program configured to control user mode application access to encapsulating instructions for a file system, the file system configured to store file data as filestreams and the database management program is configured to generate Items from the file data and expose the Items to a shell of the operating system, the Items constituting discrete storable units of information;
the instructions for the database management program further including instructions for generating a plurality of Item Folders that constitute an organizational structure for said Items, wherein the Item Folders are themselves Items and each Item Folder includes membership information identifying any relationships with Items;
the instructions for the database management program including instructions for generating a plurality of Categories that constitute an additional organizational structure for said Items, at least one of said Items belonging to at least one of the Categories, wherein each Item in a specific Category includes a common attribute that is described for that specific Category and Categories are themselves Items;
the instructions for the database management program further including instructions for receiving receive read/write requests from the user mode applications for Items via one or more functions of an operating system application program interface; and
the instructions for the database management program further including instructions for deserializing files storing the file data for the Items into Items and return the Items to the user mode applications.

2. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein an Item is a member of an Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item.

3. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein an Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

4. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein an Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

5. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein said Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

6. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein said Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

7. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein each Item is a member of at least one Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of an Item.

8. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein each said Item is itself automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

9. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein each said Item, when each no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically become members of a default Item Folder.

10. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein each said Item is itself automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

11. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein each said Item, when each is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically become members of a default Item Folder.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein a Category is defined by an Item property.

14. (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein one of said plurality of Categories is defined by an Item property, and only an Item comprising the Item property for a specific Category from among said plurality of Categories can be a member of said specific Category.

15. (Original) The computer system of claim 14 wherein an Item comprising the Item property for one of said plurality of Categories is automatically a member of that one of said plurality of Categories.

16. (Original) The computer system of claim 15 wherein an Item comprising one or more Item properties corresponding to one or more Categories of said plurality of Categories is automatically a member of each such Categories for said corresponding Item properties.

17. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein each of said plurality of Categories is defined by an Item property.

18. (Original) The computer system of claim 17 wherein each of said plurality of Categories is defined by an Item property, and only Items comprising the Item property for a specific Category from among said plurality of Categories can be members of said specific Category.

19. (Original) The computer system of claim 18 wherein each Item comprising the Item property for one of said plurality of Categories are automatically members of that one of said plurality of Categories.

20. (Original) The computer system of claim 19 wherein all Items comprising one or more Item properties corresponding to one or more Categories of said plurality of Categories are automatically members of all such Categories for said corresponding Item properties.

21-22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1, wherein the operating system is managed by a virtual machine manager.

24-36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

executing an operating system including ~~a kernel mode and a user mode, the kernel mode of the operating system including~~ a database management program, the database management program ~~encapsulating~~ configured to control user mode application access to a file system;

storing, by the file system, file data;

generating, by the database management program, Items from the file data, wherein each Item of said plurality of items constitutes a discrete unit of information;

generating, by the database management program from the file data, Item Folders, the Item Folders constituting an organizational structure for said Items, wherein the Item Folders are a type of Item;

receiving, by the database management program, read/write requests from the user mode applications for Items via one or more functions of an operating system application program interface;

deserializing, by the database management program, files storing the file data for the Items into Items; and

exposing, by the database management program, the Items and the Item Folders to a shell of the operating system.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37 wherein at least one Item is a member of an Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said at least one Item.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the at least one Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein said at least one Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the at least one Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein said at least one Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

43. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium including processor executable instructions, the computer-readable storage medium comprising:

instructions for an operating system including a ~~kernel mode and a user mode, the kernel mode of the operating system including instructions for a~~ database management program, the instructions for the database management program configured to control user mode application access to ~~encapsulating instructions for a~~ file system;

instructions for the file system configured to store ~~storing, by the file system,~~ file data;
the instructions for the database management program further including instructions ~~for generating, by the instructions for the database management program,~~ a plurality of Items, said Item comprising a discrete unit of information from the file data;

the instructions for the database management program further including instructions ~~for generating, by the instructions for the database management program,~~ a plurality of Item Folders from the file data, the Item Folders including membership information identifying any relationships with Items and the Item Folders are themselves a type of Item;

the instructions for the database management program further including instructions ~~for generating, by the instructions for the database management program,~~ a plurality of Categories from the file data, the Categories constituting an organizational structure for said Items;

the instructions for the database management program further including instructions ~~for receiving receive read/write requests from the user mode applications for Items via one or more functions of an operating system application program interface; and~~

the instructions for the database management program further including instructions ~~for deserializing files storing the file data for the Items into Items and return the Items to the user mode applications; and~~

the instructions for the database management program further including instructions ~~for exposing, by the database management program,~~ the Items to a shell of the operating system.

44. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 43 wherein at least one Item is a member of an Item Folder but is not owned by said Item Folder, such that the deletion of said Item Folder does not automatically result in the deletion of said Item.

45. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 44 wherein the at least one Item is automatically deleted when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder.

46. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 44 wherein said at least one Item, when it no longer belongs to any Item Folder, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

47. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 44 wherein the at least one Item is automatically deleted when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted.

48. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 44 wherein said at least one Item, when it is a member of only one Item Folder and said Item Folder is deleted, automatically becomes a member of a default Item Folder.

49-60. (Canceled)